
ARENA REPORT

Volume II, Number 1

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WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION
Saturday, September 9, 1989
Boston Garden
Boston, MA

Welcome to the first issue of Volume II and another edition of "Arena Report". As you can see, there was another change of main reports this issue. I was to have had a live report from Lakeland however, fifteen minutes before I was ready to leave for the show, I received a phone call from my father-in-law informing me that Cheryl's grandfather had passed away. I waited for her to come home from work to tell her and before that my mind was made up that I wasn't going to the show. Sorry, but there comes a point where reality and wrestling must be seperated. I hope everyone understands. Thanks to Louie Fortuna who supplied this Boston report and it is very current so I think you'll enjoy it. Besides the Boston report we have a review of Summer Slam, a report from the recent Titan TV tapings held in Springfield and Portland as well as the usual reports and letters from around the country. The NWA is putting on a show in Ft. Pierce which is about a two hour jaunt this Sunday (9/10). But with non-wrestling friends down visiting, I won't make it.

Ah, the next issue. My next issue will come from Worcester, MA 9/27 and the debut of the NWA. I'll also have a report on the NWA TV tapings which will be held in Johnstown, PA 9/25. This is planned since I do not have another show lined up for September. I'd like to throw something out to you, my readers. I felt that my last issue wasn't quite up to snuff due to the fact that I didn't have a live report. (Nothing against the report from New Haven, it just wasn't me live and in color.) Should I publish twice a month even though I don't have a live show to attend? After all, that is what the flux of this bulletin is all about. Just jot a note and let me know. This is probably moot as October I have two shows lined up already and one I know of in November. More shows will be booked in Florida by Titan and Turner (T & T).

"Arena Report" is published twice per month at the price of 75¢ per issue. All renewals, match reports, and letters may be sent to Ron Lemieux, 370 Lake Tahoe Ct. #102, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701. Before I go on I'd like to congratulate Kent (Klon to most of you.) and Elaine Herron as they are soon to be parents. (How do you like that, my closest wrestling buddy in Fla. and I have to read it in "Matwatch".) What a guy! Let's go to Beantown for a night with the Fed.

Opening Match

Lanny Poffo Genius beat Koko Ware at 9:47. Ware missed a corner charge and Lanny rolled him up for the pin. After, Poffo started to recite another poem but Koko interrupted and they had a post match brawl. (If these two can even have one.)

2nd Match

Bad News Brown defeated Hercules at 9:37. As Danny Davis was admonishing

Herc, Bad News Allen hit him with a savate kick for the victory.

Main Event Non-Title

Ultimate Warrior beat Andre the Giant Ultimate at a mere :18. Andre even shook the ropes like Warrior. Ulti charged the ring, two clotheslines, a splash and its over. They have a return next month for the title. Why? Could he be beaten any more soundly. Talk about milking a feud.

4th Match

Rick Martel beat Brutus Beefcake via DQ in 16:57. A lot of strutting and stalling from Martel. Davis took a ref bump as Beefer was whipped into him. While he was out, Martel got the scissors but Beef got them back and locked Martel in a sleeper. When Davis came to, he patted Bruti on the back and natch, Beef thought he won but Davis spotted the scissors and signalled for the DQ.

5th Match

Akeem over Hillbilly Jim in 6:03. Hill was met in the corner by a boot to the face. OMG then used a patented Hogan legdrop (borrowed for the night) for the win.

6th Match

Greg Valentine and Ron Garvin went to a double count out in 13:56. Greg threw Ron out and then Garvin pulled out the Hammer. Rugged Ron pulled the knee brace off but neither beat the count. Some stiff chops but these two made the rounds when Ron first came in.

Marathon Tag Team Match

The Rockers beat The Rougeau Brothers. Fall 1- Jacques pinned Marty with his foot on the ropes in 35:26. Fall 2- Jacques pinned Michaels after Ray had pulled down the top rope which sent Shawn over it. He was then thrown back in and pinned in 8:40. Fall 3- Marty pinned Jacques after a double fist drop in 5:08. Fall 4- Shawn pinned Jacques with a sunset flip at 4:06. They then had to go overtime to come up with a winner. Marty pinned Jacques for the victory at 6:50. Jacques had Jannetty pinned but Michaels hit Rougeau with a clothesline and reversed the pin. All four were beat afterwards.

Boston Notes

Crowd was only 6,000 and they get what they deserve. A rotten card on paper for a major stop on the tour... They return 10/7 with Piper-Rude, Andre-Ultimate title bout, Honkey-Snuka, Powers of Pain-Whackers, Martel-Santana, Windham-Horner. Should draw with the "Rowdy One" returning.

Ramblings

I never came as close to calling TBS as I did on the 2nd of this month. They started "World Championship" 15 minutes late due to the runover of the football game. What? You say the game started at 12:30? Yes, but they had a movie come on after and instead of joining that in progress, they ran it in full so once again wrestling paid the price. Nothing has changed. Wrestling still takes a backseat to all their other programming... Look for another sell out in the Omni 10/8 as the Flair-Funk feud concludes with an "I Quit" match and the first matchup of the Roadies and the Skyscrapers... Speaking of the Scrapers, here's some dressing room confidential for you. The last time the NWA taped in Texas, Spivey & Vicious were't too happy that a jobber didn't

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Summer Slam '89 Review

1) The Brain Busters beat The Hart Foundation in a non title match at 15:56. I expected more but didn't get it. Harts did a nice move as Anvil lifted Bret in a backbreaker type hold and slammed him on top of Tully. But Arn came off the top rope on top of Bret and Blanchard covered for the pin. ** $\frac{1}{4}$ 2) Dusty Rhodes defeated The Honkey Tonk Man in 9:40. Bout was too long. Honkey held Dusty for Jimmy Hart to club with guitar but Rhodes quickness enabled him to move and HTM got nailed. Dusty followed with elbow and pin. Honkey's comments on the way to the dressing room gives this a *. 3) Curt Hennig used a perfect plex to beat Red Rooster in 3:19. I think they went home early as Taylor suffered a knee injury early in the match. You could see where they fell wrong. * $\frac{3}{4}$ 4) Rougeau Brothers and Rick Martel upended Tito Santana and The Rockers in 14:57. Good match. Michaels looked super. Tito hit Martel with a great flying forearm. End came as Jannetty had Ray rolled up but Martel hit Marty with a clothesline and pinned him. *** 5) Ultimate Warrior regained the Intercontinental title beating Rick Rude in 16:02. In my opinion, the best match on the card. Good heat and action. I could have done without the use of Piper in the finish but I lived with it. Piper came out and mooned Rude. The ravishing one got on the second rope and Warrior gave him a belly to back suplex. Ultimate followed up with a slam and splash. Rude took a beating on the outside of the ring in this one. **** 6) Demolition and the former king (read the Portland report) Duggan downed Andre the Giant & Twin Towers in 7:24. Awful match. Only highlight was Smash body-slaming Boss Man & Akeem. Akeem gave Smash a splash but Hackman hit OMG with the piece of wood and Gang got pinned. Dud 7) Greg Valentine beat Hercules or Herc beat Valentine if you listen to Ron Garvin. Ragged Ron was guest ring announcer and after Greg used the ropes to score the pinfall, Garvin announced Herc as the winner by DQ. All pretty stupid and nobody cares. -* 8) Ted DiBiase won over Jimmy Snuka via count out in 6:29. It was okay but it was your basic Ted sell job. They're getting to be like Flair's matches use to, you can call the spots a mile away. And this coming from a devoted DiBiase fan. Snuka got rammed into the post and was counted out. After, Jimmy creamed Virgil. We can all think Virgil sells great but he probably has no idea what he's doing and actually is getting killed. * $\frac{1}{2}$ 9) Hulk Hogan & Brutus Beefcake turned back Randy Savage & Zeus in 15:13. No logic in this finish if they are planning a Hogan-Zeus showdown. Hulk hit Zeus with a loaded Scary Sherri purse, bodyslammed him (no help from Zeus the moose) and gave him the leg bomb for the pin. Casual fans will only remember that Hulk pinned him, not how or why. To me, this questions Zeus's vulnerability. No more mystique. Liz was there and after the bout, they cut Sherri's hair following a nice pop she took from Liz and the purse. Hated the spot where Savage hit Hulk with the flying elbow and Hogan got right up. Reminds me of Roadies not selling a piledriver. Match was decent when Randy was in but the first minute of the bout was one of those times I'm embarrassed to be a fan as Zeus belongs no where near the ring and that includes setting it up. Beefcakes body is starting to look like Muraco's. Head is too big for his shoulders. Tons of heat as expected and the whole skit gets ** $\frac{1}{2}$. Loved Schiavone playing up that Randy was talking strategy to Zeus when we knew he was calling the spots. Didn't Lister have enough time to go over this? Overall I enjoyed the card. The first half was real good but after intermission it went downhill until the main. Ten times better than last year's card but how could it have been worse? Don't answer that.

Correspondent Reports

Dorton Arena

Raleigh, NC

August 24, 1989

Correspondent: Mike Gunter

1) Bill Irwin & Al Green downed The Ding Dongs in 7:30 as Irwin hit Dong with the whip handle and pinned him. (How could you tell them apart Mike?) Dud. 2) Ron Simmons pinned Brad Armstrong in 3:30. D 3) Brian Pillman beat Norman in 6:28. Flyin' Brian messed up a belly to belly suplex but then executed a snap suplex and leap off the ropes for the victory. C 4) Steiner Brothers downed New Zealand Militia as Scott pinned Jacko after a "Dog Face" clothesline. C 5) Freebirds retained the NWA World Tag belts as they defeated the Midnight Express when Garvin pinned Stan Lane after Hayes hit Stan with a title belt. C+ 6) Steve Williams beat Great Muta via DQ when Gary Hart interfered. Doc subbed for Sting who it was announced was injured. Williams was to have wrestled Rotunda but he wasn't there either. D 7) Lex Luger pinned Tommy Rich with a handful of tights at 16:00. D+ 8) Ric Flair small packaged Terry Funk at the 15:00 mark. Match was good but not great. Flair bled. B 9) Road Warriors beat Samoan Swat Team in the same cage match they are having around the horn. D+ Att: 5,000 Note: Gary Hart got into an argument with a fan and pulled a knife on him. The police had to get involved.

Baltimore Arena

Baltimore, MD

August 25, 1989

Correspondent: Bruce Ginevan

1) Ranger Ross pinned Al Green in 5:15. F 2) Ron Simmons beat Brad Anderson with a nice spine buster at 2:25. C+ 3) New Zealand Militia rang the Ding Dong's bell at 7:23 as Victory pinned Dong. (How do these guys know?) F 4) Brian Pillman pinned Norman in 5:41. D 5) Dan Spivey and Bobby Eaton went to a double count out at 6:16. Was to be Scrapers vs. Midnights but it was announced El Sid was stuck in Dallas. C+ 6) Great Muta beat Sting on a disqualification in a short one. Guess Sting healed from the night before in Raleigh. C 7) Steiners beat the Freebirds via DQ at 19:31. Scott did some nice moves. B+ 8) Lex Luger used tights to pin Tommy Rich. Every time Rich was on the offensive, the fans were dead quiet. C 9) Ric Flair beat Terry Funk in a Texas Death Match. Funk pinned Ric for the first two falls. Then Terry submitted three times in a row to the figure four. In the sixth fall, Flair hit Funk with a chair and Terry couldn't continue. B+ 10) Warriors over SST in the cage with Hawk pinning Samu. C+

Springfield Civic Center

Springfield, MA

August 29, 1989

Correspondents: Dan Reilly & Louie Fortuna

This was a "Wrestling Challenge" t.v. taping. Among all the squashes, here are the highlights: Brooklyn Brawler beat Mark Young at 4:38. (I thought I said hi lights.)... Koko Ware came out and sang his new song called "Bird, Bird, Bird"... Jimmy Snuka beat Bob Bradley and then continued kicking him. Could Supersniff be turning?... Hack Duggan pinned Brooklyn Bawler in 6:57... Barry Windham beat Tim Horner in 4:54 with a suplex... Snuka beat Honkey Tonk Man in 10:46. *... Rick Rude used the rude awakening to beat Paul Roma and then a good looking girl from the audience came into the ring but refused to let Rude kiss her... Hart Foundation went to a no contest with the Rockers in a very good bout. Rougeaus came out and all four faces went after them. *** $\frac{1}{2}$... Dusty Rhodes squished Boris Zhukov... Lanny Genius beat Mark Young and in the process got nailed with a coke. No, Snuka didn't throw

it... Ron Garvin beat Dino Bravo via DQ when Greg Valentine interfered.
*... Demolition defeated the Brain Busters as Smash had Arn pinned but Tully interfered with the ref's count for a DQ. **... Roddy Piper hammered Barry Horowitz in :57 and then called that girl who rejected Rude into the ring. He asked her why she refused the ravishing one and she told Roddy that Rude's breath stunk. So Roddy gave her the Scottish awakening... Jake Roberts was there and interviewed by Mean Gene.. Hulk Hogan beat Randy Savage in the main with the dreaded leg bomb at 8:26. ** $\frac{1}{2}$... Dan and Louie had front row seats with three other friends. Dan had a PWI T-shirt on and after the first hour, an official came out and asked Dan if he'd put a WWF shirt over it. Dan told him he would but only if the whole crew could get them. They cleaned up on whiff merchandise. I would have held out for money.

Cumberland County Civic Center Portland, ME August 30, 1989
Correspondents: Dan Reilly & Scott Dickinson

This was a "Superstars" taping and once again, here are the lowlights: Paul Roma pinned Boris Zhukov in 7:00... Koko sang again... Randy Savage beat Hacksaw Duggan in 8:50 to become the new king of the WWF. End saw Sherri distract Duggan and Randy hit him with the loaded purse. Hack does a stretcher job as Sherri and Savage take turns jumping off the top rope on him... Hercules beat Akeem via DQ as Slick interfered... Tito Santana and Barry Windham wrestled to a draw in a below par match... Brother Love has Roddy Piper as his guest and as Roddy is making a fool out of Love, Heenan and Rude attack the "Rowdy" one and destroy him. Should draw great crowds... Ultimate did his :15 squash job on Andre... They have the coronation of the new King and Queen of Vince's fantasy land as Savage and Sherri are honored. Poor Randy. A feud with Duggan and now a cartoon character... Demolition over Tully & Arn in same finish as Springfield... Hogan pinned Savage in a horrible 7:35. Doesn't that mean Hulk's the new king. Both tapings sold out naturally.

Letters To The Editor

Hogan II

Is there any truth to the rumor that the next Hulk Hogan movie will be called "No Holds Used" ?

Evan Ginzburg
Bayside, NY

Summer Slam

Thumbs up to "Summer Slam" '89. It ranks in my book as the second best PPV. Number 1 is the NWA's Wrestle War on May 7.

The announcing was excellent. Tony gets my vote for the announcer of the year. Jesse was also excellent. I will comment on two matches. One is Warrior vs. Rude. This bout had to be the best match that the Warrior has ever been in, thanks to Rude. I'll give it an A-. Rude's interview after the match came off great as did Heenan's.

The other match I'd like to comment on is Hogan & Beefcake vs. Zeus & Savage. This match was a hell of alot better than I thought. Is it me or did Zeus look and work better than Andre. He came out looking like a pro wrestler. Sherri was excellent. She gets my vote for manager of the year. The best part was that Randy didn't do the job, thank you Vince! When is Vince going to give Randy another belt. For all he has done, he deserves it.

Walt Marshall
Morrisville, PA

NWA New Haven

I had to drop you a note following my attending my first ever NWA card. Here are some thoughts from the New Haven card.

If these folks really want to contend with Vince, they have to clean up their act. Some examples:

- The first two matches were refereed by somebody associated with wrestling publications. (Frank Amato) The real refs were late. Think that would happen with a Titan show?
- The music, when they bothered to play it, came from a small boom-box with the house mic held near it. Vince plays his music from the arena sound system... a major difference in quality.
- Gary Cappetta spent alot of time trying to be funny as the ring announcer. Just intro the actors Gary!
- Cappetta was pushing the channel 11 time switch, instead of the cards on channel 61, which are the cards the people in attendance would watch. Titan plugs all it's area TV equally.
- The first three matches were wrestled (?) with the house lights on, which take away from the atmosphere created by using the ring lights alone.

This very poor quality production, along with the well documented screw ups in the TBS TV shows lead me to wonder who, if anyone, is taking responsibility for this promotion. You and your fellow newsletter editors may hate to admit this, but as long as the NWA continues on this road of "Who cares" in it's attitude toward the customer, Titan will continue it's top dog status, and Hulk will continue to be the only wrestler the average person knows about.

Ted Bruttomesso

Berlin, CT

RL- What can I say. Everything you said was right on the money. But don't think just because us "newsletter editors" love the NWA, we are blind to their screw ups.

Nolk Mai?

My name is Nolk Mai. I enjoyed issue #24 very much.

Wade Olson's letter in that issue on the positive attributes of Ken Patera was wonderfully wretching. Wade inadvertantly overlooked several of Patera's noteworthy endeavors: He is a lapidary master specializing in relocation, a gung-ho endeavor to bring fresh air into a kroc induced enviroment, and Patera's hands on efforts to provide physical training for municipal employees of both sexes. Ken Patera deserves a hearty Bronx cheer from all of us.

In your last two issues you have mentioned a wrestling movie, "Alley Cats". You should provide your readers with in-depth analysis of this film. What holds are featured and what are the specific ups and downs of the movie? Do the wrestlers involved perform the same moves and actions that they do in actual wrestling? Is there anything going on in this film that we might not see on TV wrestling? I will cheerfully await this review.

Nolk Mai

Florida Keys

RL- Nice try NolkMai. This is a family publication. (Most of the time unless Levine or Zinger are included.) No review. Go to the porn tape shop. You better be good to me or I'll tell your wife you wrote this. By the way, send me a dictionary so I can look up some of these words

Florida & The Ladies

I sure would like to see the Florida promotion make it. I really

feel like they had a decent promotion. Did they have a lady wrestler by the name of Crystal Styte? I have always thought Florida had some of the finest wrestling. When I first started watching wrestling, it was from Florida. I remember the greats such as Eddie Graham, Dale Lewis, and Boris Malenko. I hope they make it.

I heard where the WWF wasn't going to feature anymore lady wrestlers. They should let them compete. There are many talented ladies out there. I really enjoy their wrestling and have a great deal of respect for them. I guess if there is one guy who truly admires them, it is me.

Clint Bennett
Moultrie, GA

RL- Crystal Styte was supposed to be on a show I attended but no match took place. Florida is not dead as I reported last issue. Check "Rambling". As far as the women go, you and Jacko Thompson should get together as he's an avid lady wrestling fan.

(continued from page 2)

sell for them during a squash so they attacked him in the dressing room. The problem was that the jobber held his own against both of them. They couldn't knock him down and all they did was bloody his lip. All the other wrestlers were laughing at the Scrapers and it's said they all lost a lot of respect for them... Two conflicting reports: One says Zeus is history and the other says he's booked against Hulk all over in December... Related to that, if he's through it will be Windham-Hogan at Wrestlemania... Survivor Series will only be four on four instead of five man teams this year... Stan Lane missed all his Florida dates this past weekend due to legal hassles in the state. Brad Armstrong subbed and teamed with Eaton against the Birds... Florida Championship still alive and running Tampa and the Caribbean. Keirn beat Kendall in a Texas Death Match in Tampa 8/24. Black Jack Mulligan is in as Kendall's manager. Nasties continue to feud with the Playboys... NWA is moving Starcade to the middle of the week, either Tues. or Wed. That kills it for me and a lot of others who were planning on flying in from out of town. Keep pulling these moves boys and you'll be real popular... Midnight Express to turn on the Dynamic Dudes when Johnny and Shane return from Japan. If Stan is still around. Word is he's fed up with the biz and may get out... Big Van Vader contacted Flair this week about working the NWA... WWF to run "King of the Ring V" 10/14 in Providence. Dusty vs. Boss Man the main and not part of tourney... As most of you know, Tommy Edwards was relocated within TBS after that screwup a couple of weeks back... Congrats to "Arena Reporter" Chris Cruise who has garnered the broadcast position of "World Wide Wrestling." Looks like Missy and Robin Green will be turning. Missy goes first... WWF to run Worcester Centrum two days before the NWA debuts at the Worcester Auditorium... Matt Calder writes to tell us that the WWF is coming to England in October as part of it's '89 European Tour. Hogan vs. Savage in the main... Jeff Goldberg of 2507 US South 1, Po Box 7132, St. Augustine, FL 32086 is looking for a copy of the NWA Baltimore PPV... Last minute result that just came in: Mid-Hudson Civic Center in Poughkeepsie, NY on 9/3 saw 1) Brooklyn Brawler pin Bob Bradley (sub for Jim Powers), Curt Hennig over Paul Roma, Boris Zhukov beat Bill Woods, Jose Luis Rivera (sub for Hillbill) beat Sandy Beach (sub for Akeem), Bushwhackers over Warlord and Master Fuji who subbed for Barbie. Snuka beat Honkey in the main which was a cage match and reporter Marilyn Rundle says watching the cage being erected

was more exciting. Card was so bad, the best two bouts were Hennig-Roma and then Brawler and Bradley. Yeeeech! Att: 2,300...

Final Word

That does it for this issue. I'm running real late so two things. I'll get to the rest of you plug wise next ish and Mr. Fishman, I alopogize (kind of like allocades) for not getting the Philly results in but see what happens when you call results in, I lose them. Actually it's been very hectic and they were misplaced. Sorry... Until 9/27 from the war in Wooster, Mass. It's sayanorra. (No I'm not going to Japan. Last time we read that somewhere in a certain newsletter, the next week we had a review of a trip to Japan. Good stuff but I'm not a japanese kind of guy. Food wise that is. Better get out of this. It's going nowhere. Thanks Mark Knulte.) Spelled wrong.

See ya,

Ron

Memo to JL: Next time, watch out for the Boss Man!